

Claim Amendments

1. (currently amended) A pin cage for a double-row self-aligning roller bearing, comprising: having the following features:

- a the self-aligning roller bearing having {1} ~~has~~ an inner ring, {2} ~~and~~ an outer ring {3} and a plurality of rollers {10} which run between the inner ring and outer ring ~~them~~ in two rows {4, 5} next to one another on ~~their~~ raceways {6, 7, 8, 9},
- a the pin cage {12} ~~is~~ arranged between the two ~~roller~~ rows of rollers {4, 5}, ~~which~~ the pin cage {12} is configured, on its axial sides, with pins {11} which are fastened offset to one another at uniform spacings and in a stepped manner,
- each of the rollers having {10} ~~of both roller rows {4, 5}~~ have one axial through hole {13} ~~each~~, via which each of the rollers ~~they~~ are mounted rotatably on one pin {11} of the pin cage {12} ~~each~~,

wherein ~~characterized in that~~

- the pin cage {12} is configured as a preassembled component without a side disk, and ~~which~~ comprises a single-piece, closed annular disk {14} and pins {11} which protrude axially freely away from the disk ~~latter~~ and the length of which is smaller than the length of the through holes {13} in the rollers {10},
- the lubrication of the rollers {10} taking place by centrifugal force from their free end side {15} through the outer opening {16} of their through hole {13}, and the free hollow space {17} of these through holes {13} being configured as an additional lubricant reservoir.

2. (currently amended) The pin cage of ~~as claimed in~~ claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the annular disk {11} of the pin cage {12} ~~preferably~~ has a

rhomboidal profile cross section, ~~having in which, based on~~ a perpendicular axis of symmetry, the angles which lie opposite one another between the two upper side faces {18, 19} and the two lower side faces {20, 21} are cut off at right angles with respect to the axis of symmetry.

3. (currently amended) The pin cage ~~of as claimed in~~ claim 2, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the lower side faces {20, 21} of the annular disk {11} of the pin cage {12} preferably have perpendicularly inserted holes {22} for fastening the pins {11}, and are configured as inner axial guide faces of the rollers {10} ~~of the self-aligning roller bearing {1}~~.

4. (currently amended) The pin cage ~~of as claimed in~~ claim 2, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the inner openings {23} of the through holes {13} in the rollers {10} of the self-aligning roller bearing {1} are configured so as to be widened in each case by a radius and, together with the upper side faces {18, 19} of the annular disk {14} of the pin cage {12} form a defined discharge channel {24} for lubricant which emerges from the through holes {13} of the rollers {10}.

5. (currently amended) The pin cage ~~of as claimed in~~ claim 3, of ~~characterized in that~~ the pins {11} of the pin cage {12} are preferably fastened by welding or screwing one end ~~of their ends {25}~~ in the holes {22} on the lower side faces {20, 21} of the annular disk {14}, and the free length of the pins {11} corresponds to approximately 50% to 70% of the length of the through holes {13} in the rollers {10} ~~of the self-aligning roller bearing {1}~~.

6. (currently amended) The pin cage ~~of as claimed in~~ claim 5, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the pins {11} of the pin cage {12} have, on their entire free

length, optionally either a cylindrical profile cross section or, on both sides of a transverse axis which corresponds to the longitudinal center of the rollers (10), a conical profile cross section, the cone angles (α , β) corresponding on both sides preferably to the offset angle of the rollers (10) of the self-aligning roller bearing (1) of approximately 1° .